

Amendments to the Specification

In the Specification:

Before paragraph [0002] please insert the heading --BACKGROUND--.

Before paragraph [0014], please insert the heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Please replace paragraph [0014] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0014] Therefore, it is an object of the present invention to ~~put forward~~ provide a scanning microscope with which ~~the~~ a theoretically possible degree of resolution can be achieved with considerably reduced adjustment requirements and which concurrently offers a simplified adaptation to changing examination conditions, for instance, the changing of objectives.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0015] ~~This task is solved by~~ The present invention provides a scanning microscope ~~that is characterized in that~~ in which an optical system for imaging the optical component into the pupil of the objective is provided, whereby the size of the image of the optical component can be adjusted.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0023] In a ~~particularly~~ preferred embodiment ~~variant~~, the size of the image of the optical component is adjusted automatically. Preferably, a means is provided that automatically recognizes the objective placed into the beam path, thus allowing a control computer to perform the adjustment – which has optionally been stored ahead of time – that is optimal for this objective. Preferably, the size of the image of the optical component is adjusted as a function of the diameter of the pupil of the selected objective.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0024] In ~~an especially~~ a preferred embodiment ~~variant~~, the scanning microscope is configured as a confocal or double confocal scanning microscope.

Before paragraph [0026], please insert the heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Before paragraph [0027], please insert the heading --DETAILED DESCRIPTION--.

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0029] The invention has been described with reference to ~~a special~~ an embodiment. However, it goes without saying that changes and modifications can be made without departing from the protective scope of the claims presented below.

On page 11, please change the heading to read as follows: ~~Patent Claims~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS.